

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 were previously cancelled. Claims 26, 29, 36, 44 and 45 are currently amended. Claim 28 is currently cancelled. Claims 27, 30-35, 37-43 and 46-61 are carried forward.

Claims 1-25 (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A printing group of a rotary printing press comprising:

a forme cylinder;

a transfer cylinder in contact with said forme cylinder;

a first support element on said transfer cylinder;

a counter-pressure cylinder in contact with said transfer cylinder;

a second support element on said counter-pressure cylinder and

engagable with said first support element, said first and second support elements on said transfer cylinder and on said counter-pressure cylinder-and cooperating with each other to set a first contact pressure between said transfer cylinder and said counter-pressure cylinder;

a shaft distance between said forme cylinder and said transfer cylinder;

and

means for adjusting said shaft distance during an ongoing printing operation of said printing group to set a second contact pressure between said forme cylinder and said transfer cylinder.

27. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 wherein a position of said forme cylinder with respect to said transfer cylinder can be set.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A printing group of a rotary printing press comprising:

a forme cylinder;

a transfer cylinder in contact with said forme cylinder;

a counter-pressure cylinder in contact with said transfer cylinder;

a waterless printing forme on said forme cylinder; and

means for adjusting a contact pressure between said forme cylinder and said transfer cylinder during an ongoing printing operation of said printing group as a function of a property of said waterless printing forme.

30. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 wherein said property is a pressure stressing of said waterless printing forme.

31. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 wherein said property is a temperature stressing of said waterless printing forme.

32. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 wherein said property is a wear resistance of said waterless printing forme.

33. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 further including a printing ink usable to ink said waterless printing forme and having a heat-related behavior and wherein said contact pressure is adapted to said heat-related behavior.

34. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 33 wherein said heat-related behavior of said printing ink is one of its flowability and its adhesion to said waterless printing forme.

35. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 further including a shaft distance between said forme cylinder and said transfer cylinder and means for adjusting said shaft distance, said shaft distance varying said contact pressure.

36. (Currently Amended) The printing group of claim 35 wherein said shaft distance is adjustable during said ongoing printing operation of said printing group of the rotary printing press.

37. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 further including cooperating support elements on said transfer cylinder and said counter-pressure cylinder.

38. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 wherein said shaft distance has different values to vary said second contact pressure.

39. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 further including at least one printing forme coated with silicon on said forme cylinder.
40. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 wherein said waterless printing forme is coated with silicon.
41. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 further including at least one waterless printing forme on said forme cylinder.
42. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 where said forme cylinder has a surface and further including a printing plate securable to said forme cylinder surface.
43. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 wherein said forme cylinder has a surface and wherein said waterless printing forme is securable to said forme cylinder surface.
44. (Currently Amended) The printing group of claim 26 wherein said means for adjusting said shaft distance ~~includes one of an eccentric bearing, a lever arrangement and a linear drive mechanism.~~
45. (Currently Amended) The printing group of claim 35 wherein said means for adjusting said shaft distance ~~includes one of an eccentric bearing, a lever~~

~~arrangement and a linear drive mechanism.~~

46. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 44 wherein said eccentric bearing is an eccentric bushing.

47. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 45 wherein said eccentric bearing is an eccentric bushing.

48. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 wherein said support elements roll off against each other.

49. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 37 wherein said support elements roll off against each other.

50. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 further including a second forme cylinder and wherein said counter-pressure cylinder is a second transfer cylinder cooperating with said second forme cylinder.

51. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 further including a second forme cylinder and wherein said counter-pressure cylinder is a second transfer cylinder cooperating with said second forme cylinder.

52. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 further including a

displacement path defining a path of movement of said transfer cylinder and said counter-pressure cylinder.

53. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 further including a displacement path defining a path of movement of said transfer cylinder and said counter-pressure cylinder.

54. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 wherein said printing group is a component of a four cylinder printing group.

55. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 wherein said printing group is a component of a four cylinder printing group.

56. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 26 wherein said forme cylinder is temperature regulated.

57. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 29 wherein said forme cylinder is temperature regulated.

58. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 56 further including at least one cooling conduit in said forme cylinder and means flowing a temperature regulating medium through said at least one cooling conduit.

59. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 57 further including at least one cooling conduit in said forme cylinder and means flowing a temperature regulating medium through said at least one cooling conduit.

60. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 58 wherein said at least one cooling conduit is arranged close to a surface area of said forme cylinder.

61. (Previously Presented) The printing group of claim 59 wherein said at least one cooling conduit is arranged close to a surface area of said forme cylinder.